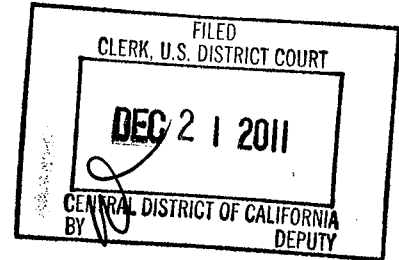


ORIGINAL

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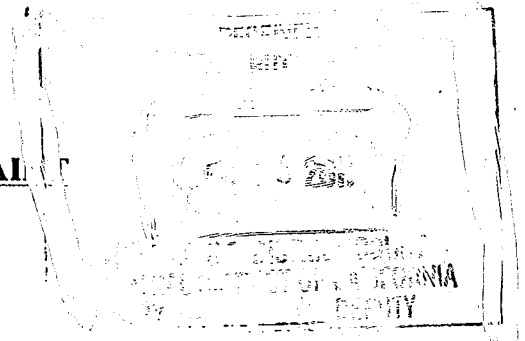


Attorney for the Relators

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
WESTERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
Ex Rel. NYOKA LEE and)
TALALA MSHUJA,)
Plaintiffs,)
VS.) 2:07-cv-01984-PSG-MANx
CORINTHIAN COLLEGES, INC.;)
ERNST & YOUNG, LLP;) JURY TRIAL
DAVID MOORE; and)
JACK D. MASSIMINO,)
Defendants)

FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT



PARTIES

1
2 1. The Plaintiff is the United States of America *ex relatione* NYOKA
3 JUNE LEE and TALALA MSHUJA under the provisions of 31 U.S.C. §
4 3730(b).

5 2. Relator NYOKA JUNE LEE ("LEE") is an individual residing in
6 California. She brings this action for herself and for the United States under 31
7 U.S.C. § 3730(b). LEE was employed at Bryman College, one of the
8 Corinthian Colleges, for periods of time from 1998 until 2006. LEE served as
9 an admissions representative, senior admissions representative, and master
10 admissions representative at Corinthian's San Francisco campus; the director of
11 admissions at the Hayward campus in 2004; and a masters admissions
12 representative at Corinthian's San Francisco campus from 2005-2006.

13 3. Relator TALALA MSHUJA ("MSHUJA") is an individual residing
14 in San Jose, California. He brings this action for himself and for the United
15 States under 31 U.S.C. § 3730(b). MSHUJA was employed as an independent
16 test proctor at Corinthian's San Francisco campus from August 2000 until
17 February 2003, and then at the San Jose campus from January 2004 until July
18 2005. MSHUJA worked at Corinthian's Fremont campus from 2006-2009.

19 4. Defendant CORINTHIAN COLLEGES, INC. ("COCO" or the
20 "Company") is a Delaware corporation with its principal corporate in Santa

1 Ana, California. Said Defendant has made its appearance herein. COCO was
2 founded in 1995, and became, at one time, the second largest for-profit college,
3 or “proprietary” school, in the post-secondary education industry. COCO owns
4 the following schools: Rhodes College, Inc., Everest College, Everest Institute,
5 Everest University, Everest Online, Everest-Canada, Bryman College, Titan
6 Schools, National Institute of Technology, Florida Career College, WyoTech,
7 Tampa College, Orlando College, and, Heald College. COCO is comprised of
8 approximately 100 campuses. The practices described below took place at all
9 colleges owned by COCO. Corinthian Colleges, Inc. is publicly traded on the
10 NASDAQ Exchange under the ticker symbol “COCO.” The United States
11 government has paid COCO several billion dollars in federal student financial
12 aid made available under Title IV of the Higher Education Act. COCO’s
13 revenues totaled \$511 million in 2003, \$796 million in 2004, and \$964 million
14 in 2005.

15 5. Defendant ERNST & YOUNG LLP (“E&Y”) is a national firm
16 of certified public accountants, known as one of the Big Four accounting and
17 auditing firms. Defendant E&Y is a limited liability partnership headquartered
18 in New York and is one of the largest accounting firms in the United States.
19 For fiscal years 2002-2011, E&Y acted as auditor for COCO. Said Defendant
20 has made its appearance herein. E&Y was engaged to conduct the audits and

1 issue opinions on COCO's financial statements in accordance with *Generally*
2 *Accepted Auditing Standards (GAAS)*. E&Y was also engaged, pursuant to the
3 Higher Education Act, to audit COCO under *Government Auditing Standards*
4 and to prepare certain required compliance opinions, including "Reports on
5 Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other
6 Matters Based on an Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements Performed
7 in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*." E&Y, moreover,
8 advised COCO regarding its annual reports filed with the Securities &
9 Exchange Commission, specifically including the Company's Forms 10-K.
10 E&Y annually issued these various audit opinions, without ever conducting the
11 necessary auditing tests and procedures to determine how COCO was actually
12 implementing its written recruiter compensation programs.

13 6. Defendant David Moore ("MOORE") is an individual who served as
14 chairman, president, and chief executive officer of COCO. MOORE was a
15 founding shareholder in COCO, and was directly in charge of COCO's
16 recruiting operations and enrollment practices, and setting Company enrollment
17 targets, until 2006, when he left management of the Company. Said Defendant
18 has made his appearance herein. MOORE also served on COCO's board of
19 directors. MOORE signed many of the Program Participation Agreements that
20 were submitted to United States Department of Education pursuant to 20 U.S.C.

1 § 1094 so that COCO could participate in the federal student financial aid
2 programs. MOORE was primarily responsible for the ramp up in COCO's
3 enrollments in the period through 2006.

4 7. Defendant Jack D. Massimino ("MASSIMINO") is an individual who
5 served as chairman, president, and chief executive officer of COCO. Said
6 Defendant has made his appearance herein. MASSIMINO also served on
7 COCO's board of directors. MASSIMINO signed many of the Program
8 Participation Agreements that were submitted to the United States Department
9 of Education so that COCO could participate in the federal student financial aid
10 programs. MASSIMINO had primary responsibility for setting yearly
11 enrollment targets for COCO's colleges. MASSIMINO was responsible for
12 implementing the recruiting compensation practices described herein to achieve
13 the Company's annual enrollment targets.

14 8. The United States Department of Education ("DEPT-EDU" or
15 Agency) is the agency of the United States government responsible for the
16 regulation, administration, and distribution of the student financial aid programs
17 authorized by Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended ("Title
18 IV, HEA Programs").
19
20

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

10. This Court has jurisdiction and venue of this action 28 U.S.C. § 1345 and 31 U.S.C. § 3732(a).

SUMMARY OF THE ACTION

11. Relators allege an ongoing fraud by Corinthian Colleges, Inc., that from 2000 continually through the present, the Company has submitted false statements to the U.S. Department of Education every year in order to obtain educational grants and guaranteed student loans made available under Title IV of the Higher Education Act ("HEA") to students in financial need. The Company falsely represents every year that it does not provide incentive payments to its recruiters for their recruiting work. The incentive compensation ban is a core prerequisite under the HEA to obtain payment of the Title IV funds. COCO falsely certified to the DEPT-EDU every year that the Company is in compliance with the incentive compensation ban in the Program Participation Agreements that COCO executes and submits to the DEPT-EDU, when in fact the Company pays its recruiters based solely on the number of students they enroll.

12. Contrary to the statutory prohibition that the Company “will not provide any commission, bonus, or other incentive payment based directly or indirectly on success in securing enrollments” to its recruiters, Corinthian

utilizes a compensation system that ties earnings directly and solely to student recruitment.

13. Recruiters at COCO are classified, and paid, based on the number of students enrolled. Recruiters are ranked in categories that correspond to the number of students enrolled, not by length of service with the Company, seniority, educational background, or hours worked. For instance, in 2005, COCO ranked, and compensated its recruiters according to the following categories:

<u>Recruiter category</u>	<u>Enrollment Minimum</u>
Associate Campus Admissions Representative	40
Campus Admissions Representative	58
Senior Campus Admissions Representative	70
Master Campus Admissions Representative	100
Executive Campus Admissions Representative	125

14. Recruiters at COCO function as sales personnel and are awarded pay increases solely on the basis of the number of student enrollments. Under its recruiter compensation program, recruiters who exceed the quotas assigned to their ranks are awarded raises between 2.5% to 10% of their base salary, depending on how many additional students they enroll. Recruiter promotions to higher ranks, moreover, are based solely on the number of students recruited, and are not limited to single rank promotions from recruiters' starting rank. COCO recruiter compensation program indicates that it grades recruiters as

1 “Good” and “Excellent” based on factors other than enrollment numbers.
2 COCO intentionally and knowingly designed its Compensation Program to
3 show “Good” versus “Excellent” factors and ratings for the purpose of
4 concealing COCO’s violations of the Incentive Compensation Ban and
5 Regulatory Safe Harbor. The “Good” versus “Excellent” quality ratings are a
6 smoke screen used to disguise the fact that its recruiters are compensated solely
7 based on recruitment, admission, and enrollment numbers. COCO acted with
8 fraudulent intent and did not, in good faith, rely upon the Safe Harbor
9 Provisions.

10 15. Each student inquiry at COCO is labeled as a “Lead”. Every Lead is
11 tagged by COCO’s marketing department before it is assigned to a recruiter.
12 COCO monitors each Lead, and keeps a running total of the number of student
13 leads assigned to each recruiter. COCO keeps a running total of every
14 recruiter’s “lead-to-conversion ratio” (“L-C Ratio”). The L-C Ratio is a
15 calculation performed daily by COCO’s marketing department showing the
16 number and percentage of Leads that have enrolled by every recruiter at COCO.
17 The school monitors whether the Lead resulted in an interview, an application
18 for admission, and finally, enrollment. The calculation of the percentage of
19 Leads that eventually enrolls in classes determines whether the recruiter will be
20 assigned any new Leads, or whether she would be constructively terminated by

1 not receiving additional leads. The L-C Ratio is the calculation used to
2 determine the recruiters' "Good" versus "Excellent" rating, and is calculated
3 based solely on the numbers of students who enroll at COCO.

4 16. COCO generates enrollments through highly aggressive marketing.
5 In 2009, COCO's sales force was 1,700 recruiters who worked directly with
6 prospective students in the admissions process. In comparison, the Company
7 only employed 1,460 full time faculty. None of the faculty were paid using the
8 variable compensation program COCO uses for compensating its recruiters.
9 The job function of recruiters is ostensibly to provide counseling and advice to
10 potential students. Unbeknownst to the students, and the U.S. Government,
11 recruiters at COCO are awarded pay increases based on the number of students
12 they enroll. COCO's recruiters have a direct financial stake in the enrollment
13 decision of every potential student. COCO's advice to potential students is
14 tainted by this conflict of interest between the financial interest of the recruiter
15 and the academic needs of the students, the very compensation arrangement that
16 is prohibited by the HEA.

17 17. Despite the ban on incentive recruiter compensation, Corinthian pays
18 its recruiters incentive compensation. As a matter of corporate practice,
19 recruiters have been required to meet a certain enrollment quota, depending on
20 their salary grade and title. Those recruiters that exceed their quotas receive

1 raises of 2.5% to 10% of their base salary, every six months, depending on the
2 number of new recruits they sign up. The bonus criteria (number of additional
3 enrollments) are set forth in a matrix designed by Corinthian. Employees
4 failing to meet their quotas are disciplined, demoted, or terminated. *See* Exhibit
5 A to Relators' original Complaint.

6 18. As did Corinthian, Ernst & Young also falsely certified that
7 Corinthian was in compliance with the recruiter compensation prohibitions. In
8 particular, Ernst & Young failed to perform the legally required evaluation to
9 determine if Corinthian's recruiter compensation practices were legal.

10 19. Ernst & Young knew that Corinthian derived almost all of its revenue
11 from HEA funds, and that Corinthian spent close to one-fourth of its budget on
12 recruiters' compensation and advertising.

13 20. Ernst & Young simply rubber-stamped the information provided by
14 Corinthian. E&Y issued its compliance audits and financial statement audit
15 opinions knowing them to be false and/or in reckless disregard of the truth or
16 falsity of the information provided to the United States.

17 21. Corinthian owed a massive liability to the United States as the result
18 of the Company's illegal recruiter compensation practices. Corinthian's
19 financial statements were misstated and were false because they failed to
20 disclose that the Company owed a massive liability to the United States as the

1 result of Corinthian's illegal recruiter compensation practices. Under
2 Pronouncement Number 5 of the Financial Accounting Standards Board
3 ("FASB 5"), Ernst & Young was obligated to disclose all contingent obligations
4 on the financial statements. Yet, it failed to do so. Nor did it mention any
5 qualifications on Corinthian's financial statements, which it was required to do
6 under applicable accounting and auditing standards.

7 22. Ernst & Young made false certifications of compliance respecting
8 Corinthian's financial statements and compliance obligations, knowing the
9 same were going to be submitted to the Department of Education to obtain
10 funds from the United States treasury.

11 23. Ernst & Young also fraudulently caused the United States to pay Title
12 IV, HEA Program funds to Corinthian by such false and fraudulent compliance
13 audit and financial statement audit opinions. At the same time E&Y issued
14 clean, unqualified audit opinions to the DEPT-EDU, E&Y endorsed the
15 cautionary disclaimers contained in the MD&A section of the Company's Form
16 10-K filed with the Securities & Exchange Commission.

17 Third-Party Auditor

18 24. When E&Y took over as COCO's auditor, in 2002, the Incentive
19 Compensation Regulations accompanying the Higher Education Act had just
20 been amended to allow, under the Regulatory Safe Harbor, schools to pay

1 “fixed compensation, such as a fixed annual salary or a fixed hourly wage, as
2 long as that compensation is not adjusted up or down more than twice during
3 any twelve month period, and any adjustment is not based solely on the number
4 of students recruited, admitted, enrolled, or awarded financial aid.” 34 C.F.R. §
5 668.14(b)(22)(ii)(A) (2002).

6 25. Aware that the U.S. Department of Education would not review or
7 pre-approve individual schools’ compensation plans, a third party auditor was
8 engaged to perform the attestation engagement required by the HEA. The
9 device of using a third party auditor to alleviate compliance risk and thereby
10 insulate E&Y from liability is a violation of both *Generally Accepted Auditing*
11 *Standards* and *Government Auditing Standards*. In particular, AU § 543
12 prevents an auditor from serving as the principal auditor and issuing opinions in
13 cases where a third party auditor has been delegated the task of evaluating high
14 risk material issues. E&Y at all time abdicated its responsibility to audit
15 COCO’s recruiter compensation practices, for each audit year under suit.

16 26. The professional standard governing the outsourcing of audit
17 procedures to a third party accounting firm is AU § 543, *Part of Audit*
18 *Performed by Other Independent Auditors*. Where the audit function that is
19 being conducted by the third party relates to a matter that is of such importance
20 to the financial statements that it impacts the overall financial condition of the

1 company, the rule urges the principal auditor to decline serving in the
2 engagement.

3 AU § 543.02

4 “The auditor considering whether he may serve as principal auditor
5 may have performed all but a relatively minor portion of the work, or
6 significant parts of the audit may have been performed by other
7 auditors. In the latter case, he must decide whether his own
8 participation is sufficient to enable him to serve as the principal
9 auditor and to report as such on the financial statements. In deciding
10 this question, the auditor should consider, among other things, the
11 materiality of the portion of the financial statements he has audited in
12 comparison with the portion audited by other auditors, the extent of
13 his knowledge of the overall financial statements, and the importance
14 of the components he audited in relation to the enterprise as a whole.
15 [As modified, September 1981, by the Auditing Standards Board.]”

16
17 27. The main purpose of AU § 543 is to prevent the principal auditor
18 from blindfolding itself to significant audit risks by having those functions
19 delegated to third-party accountants. The principal auditor who issues an
20 opinion based on the work of a third party auditor does so at its peril, as the rule
21 eliminates lack of knowledge as a defense to audit failure under such
22 circumstances.

23 28. E&Y had the responsibility under *GAAS* to report on possible illegal
24 acts by its client, as explained in part by AU Section 317, *Illegal Acts by Client*.
25 E&Y simply disregarded that COCO received 90% of its revenue directly from
26 the U.S. government and the audit risk involved with this revenue source.

1 COCO's compliance with the laws and regulations under which those funds
 2 were provided would have been recognized by reasonable auditors to have a
 3 direct and material effect on the determination of COCO's financial statement
 4 amounts. The effect of violations of such laws and regulations requires the
 5 auditor to disclose a contingent liability because of the allegation or
 6 determination of illegality, under *GAAS* and *Government Auditing Standards*.

7 29. E&Y abdicated its responsibility under AU Section 317 to apply audit
 8 procedures specifically directed to ascertaining whether an illegal act has
 9 occurred, in relation to COCO's recruiter compensation practices, and to
 10 disclose the material uncertainty over the legality of COCO's recruiter
 11 compensation practices in E&Y's audit opinions.

12 AU 317.01

13 This section prescribes the nature and extent of the consideration an
 14 independent auditor should give to the possibility of illegal acts by
 15 a client in an audit of financial statements in accordance with
 16 generally accepted auditing standards. The section also provides
 17 guidance on the auditor's responsibilities when a possible illegal act
 18 is detected.

19 * * *

20 *Audit Procedures in Response to Possible Illegal Acts*

21 317.10

22 When the auditor becomes aware of information concerning a
 23 possible illegal act, the auditor should obtain an understanding of
 24 the nature of the act, the circumstances in which it occurred, and
 25 sufficient other information to evaluate the effect on the financial
 26 statements. In doing so, the auditor should inquire of management

1 at a level above those involved, if possible. If management does not
 2 provide satisfactory information that there has been no illegal act,
 3 the auditor should—

4 a. Consult with the client's legal counsel or other specialists about
 5 the application of relevant laws and regulations to the
 6 circumstances and the possible effects on the financial
 7 statements. Arrangements for such consultation with client's
 8 legal counsel should be made by the client.

9 b. Apply additional procedures, if necessary, to obtain further
 10 understanding of the nature of the acts.

11 * * *

12
 13 *Effect on the Auditor's Report*

14 **317.18**

15 If the auditor concludes that an illegal act has a material effect on
 16 the financial statements, and the act has not been properly
 17 accounted for or disclosed, the auditor should express a qualified
 18 opinion or an adverse opinion on the financial statements taken as a
 19 whole, depending on the materiality of the effect on the financial
 20 statements.

21
 22 30. E&Y was required to know every significant aspect of COCO's
 23 recruiter compensation practices under both *GAAS* and *Government Auditing*
 24 *Standards*, irrespective of any compliance work done by a third-party auditor.
 25 Had E&Y conducted its audits of COCO in accordance with *Government*
 26 *Auditing Standards* and *Generally Accepted Auditing Standards*, E&Y would
 27 have known, and reported, that COCO's financial statements violated *Generally*
 28 *Accepted Accounting Principles* ("GAAP"), which require that such statements

1 (a) not be misleading, (b) fairly disclose the Company's financial position, and
2 (c) not omit material information necessary to fairly present the financial
3 position. As the public auditor for COCO, E&Y had the absolute obligation to
4 ensure that COCO's financial statements complied with *GAAP* and did not
5 mislead the U.S. government, the State licensing agencies, and the students.
6 Instead of fulfilling this obligation, E&Y gave a clean, unqualified opinion each
7 year, erroneously stating that COCO's financial statements complied with
8 *GAAP*. E&Y sat by silently while COCO deceived the U.S. Department of
9 Education by concealing the recruiter compensation practices and
10 misrepresenting the Company's compliance with the Higher Education Act. By
11 doing so, E&Y directly facilitated a major accounting fraud, and helped COCO
12 mislead the U.S. Department of Education, the States that granted licenses to
13 COCO, and the students recruited by the commissioned recruiters as to its true
14 financial condition. E&Y, which reaped substantial fees from COCO, must be
15 held accountable for its role in this fraud.

16 31. E&Y simply rubber stamped the information COCO management
17 provided to E&Y, without making an audit determination about how COCO
18 was actually implementing its written recruiter compensation program. E&Y
19 issued its financial statement audit opinions and E&Y's Report of Independent
20 Registered Public Accounting Firm and Report on Internal Control Over

1 Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit
2 of the Consolidated Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with
3 *Government Auditing Standards* without conducting the necessary audit
4 procedures to determine what COCO's recruiter compensation practices were.
5 Instead, directly contrary to AU 317, E&Y issued its opinions representing that
6 it had conducted its audits in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*,
7 knowing this to be false, or in reckless disregard of the truth or falsity of the
8 assertions made to the United States, or deliberately indifferent to the truth of
9 the assertions made in its audit opinions.

11 INSTITUTIONAL ELIGIBILITY

12 32. The Higher Education Act of 1965, Title IV, Part G, § 487, as
13 amended, prohibits an institution that pays incentive compensation to
14 admissions and recruitment representatives from participating in Title IV, HEA
15 Programs. The first prong to obtain eligibility to receive payment of Title IV,
16 HEA Programs is the institution must enter into a program participation
17 agreement with the DEPT-EDU. "The agreement *shall* condition the initial and
18 continuing eligibility of an institution to participate in a program upon
19 compliance with the following:

20 * * *

1 The institution will not provide any commission, bonus, or other
2 incentive payment based directly or indirectly on success in
3 securing enrollments or financial aid to any persons or entities
4 engaged in any student recruiting or admission activities or in
5 making decisions regarding the award of student financial
6 assistance, except that this paragraph shall not apply to the
7 recruitment of foreign students residing in foreign countries who
8 are not eligible to receive Federal student assistance.
9

10 20 U.S.C. § 1094(a)(20).

11
12 33. The initial implementing regulation for the program participation
13 agreement was 34 CFR § 668.14(b)(22). In 2002, the Department of Education
14 amended the regulation and created a “safe harbor” provision interpreting the
15 ban on recruiter compensation. The safe harbor provides that for-profit schools
16 may, without violating the incentive compensation ban, provide “payment of
17 fixed compensation, such as a *fixed* annual salary or a *fixed* hourly wage, as
18 long as that compensation is not adjusted up or down more than twice during
19 any twelve month period, and any adjustment is not based solely on the number
20 of students recruited, admitted, enrolled, or awarded financial aid.” 34 C.F.R.
21 668.14(b)(22)(ii)(A) (2010) (“Safe Harbor Provision”) (emphasis added).

22 34. COCO signed and submitted PPAs to the Department of Education on
23 behalf of all its schools and branches in the United States. COCO certified to
24 the United States that “[i]t will not provide, nor contract with any entity that
25 provides, any commission, bonus, or other incentive payment based directly or

1 indirectly on success in securing enrollments or financial aid to any persons or
 2 entities engaged in any student recruiting or admission activities or in making
 3 decisions regarding the awarding of student financial assistance . . .” in order to
 4 obtain Title IV funding.

5 35. Furthermore, COCO certified that “[i]t will comply with all
 6 statutory provisions of or applicable to Title IV of the HEA, all applicable
 7 regulatory provisions prescribed under that statutory authority, and all
 8 applicable special arrangements, agreements, and limitations entered into under
 9 the authority of statutes applicable to Title IV of the HEA. . .” in order to obtain
 10 Title IV funding.

11 36. By entering into such PPAs, COCO has collected vast amounts of
 12 student financial aid from the United States government. Almost ninety percent
 13 (90%) of COCO’s reported revenues were paid from Title IV Program funds.

14 <u>Year</u>	<u>Net Revenue</u>	<u>Admissions & Marketing expenses</u>	<u>%</u>
15			
16 2009	\$1,307,825,000	\$294,728,000	22.54%
17 2008	\$1,068,671,000	\$276,875,000	25.91%
18 2007	\$ 933,182,000	\$252,332,000	27.03%
19 2006	\$ 966,646,000	\$256,438,000	26.52%
20 2005	\$ 963,565,000	\$228,437,000	23.71%
21 2004	\$ 795,636,000		
22 2003	\$ 511,429,000		
23 2002	\$ 332,342,000		
24 2001	\$ 244,163,000		
25 2000	\$ 170,734,000		
26			

27 37. At all times while COCO was receiving these revenues from the

1 United States, it was paying its recruiters based solely on the number of
2 students enrolled the recruiter. COCO was not eligible to receive any of said
3 Title IV program funds as a consequence of its illegal recruiter compensation
4 practices.

5 38. COCO has compensated its recruiters, including Relator Nyoka June
6 Lee, and their supervisors, the campus directors of admission, based upon the
7 number of new students they recruit to enroll in COCO schools. These
8 practices have been in place from July 1, 2000 to the present.

9 39. Exhibit "A" to Relators' original Complaint is COCO's
10 compensation system for admissions personnel. COCO's compensation system
11 for admissions personnel is called the "Corinthian Schools and Rhodes Colleges
12 Adult Admissions Representatives Compensation Program, Promotion
13 Guidelines, Updated: 7/6/05". COCO's implementation of this Compensation
14 Program provides raises and promotions taking into account only the number of
15 students recruited.

16 40. COCO's compensation system ranks recruiters according to how
17 many students they enroll. The recruiters' compensation is based directly and
18 indirectly on the success in securing enrollments. The single factor considered
19 in recruiter compensation is enrollment numbers.

20 41. Compensation advancement for recruiters at COCO depends entirely

1 on the number of new students a recruiter is able to enroll. COCO pressures its
2 recruiters to enroll every possible prospective student through its recruiter
3 compensation system. In practice, increased compensation for recruiters is
4 achieved only through increases in the number of students the recruiter enrolls
5 to attend Corinthian.

6 42. In practice, COCO has a high-pressure sales culture where enrolling
7 new students is the sole focus of its compensation system. COCO's
8 Admissions Department openly admonishes its recruiters that their employment
9 and compensation are tied to enrollment numbers.

10 43. At COCO, the recruiters' financial goals are tied solely and directly to
11 recruiting an identified number of student enrollments.

12 44. COCO tracks every Lead assigned to the recruiters. The number of
13 student enrollments for each recruiter is monitored on a daily, weekly, monthly,
14 quarterly, and annual basis. The recruiting activity is also reported on a
15 percentage basis. COCO keeps real time reporting of the Lead-to-Enrollment
16 activity of all recruiters working for the Company, which are shown in
17 numerous corporate reports that are widely disseminated within COCO.

18 45. The job of the Director of Admissions at each COCO campus is to
19 serve as the recruiting manager for that COCO school, and his compensation
20 depends solely on the number of students who enroll at his campus. The

1 campus Director of Admissions manages the distribution of "Leads" among the
2 recruiters employed at that campus.

3 46. All marketing and recruiting functions are directed and supervised by
4 COCO's management. The enrollment numbers for all campus recruiters and
5 the campus Directors of Admissions are monitored throughout each working
6 day.

7 47. COCO knew, or acted with reckless disregard of the fact that its
8 conduct in implementing its compensation program did not fall within the
9 Department of Education Safe Harbor Provision when it certified to the United
10 States government that it was compliant with the HEA.

11 48. Alternatively, even if COCO believed that its written Compensation
12 Program fell under the Safe Harbor Provision, it knew or acted with reckless
13 disregard of the fact that, in reality, recruiter compensation decisions were made
14 solely on the basis of recruitment.

15 49. COCO knew, or acted with reckless disregard, or was deliberately
16 indifferent to the truth of the fact that its conduct in implementing its
17 compensation system violates the incentive compensation ban and does not
18 qualify for the regulatory Safe Harbor.

19 50. Despite the Compensation Program's purported or documented
20 reliance on something other than recruitment numbers, salary increases for

1 recruiters are *in practice* determined on the sole basis of recruitment numbers.

2 51. COCO's corporate practice with respect to awarding raises to
3 recruiters is inconsistent with its written recruiter compensation program.

4 COCO's Business Plan & Its Consequences

5 52. COCO's business policy is "relentless" recruiting. The Company has
6 engaged in practices designed to milk the U.S. taxpayers out of every possible
7 dime in the name of providing education to underprivileged students. COCO
8 has the highest student loan default rate of all the publicly traded for-profit
9 education companies. Likewise, COCO has the highest student drop-out rate of
10 the publicly traded for-profit education companies, which COCO never took
11 into consideration in awarding raises to its recruiters. Nor did COCO take into
12 consideration the student loan default rate in awarding raises to its recruiters.

13 53. COCO lured students, especially minorities, with promises of quick
14 degrees and high paying jobs. However, in reality these students were left with
15 loads of debt, unprepared to enter the work place. COCO has left hundreds of
16 thousands of students with huge student loans, and virtually no training with
17 which to pay their loans. Many of COCO's former students who have not
18 formally entered into default status are in periods of statutory forbearance due
19 to unemployment. The result leaves U.S. taxpayers paying all the costs, while
20 COCO reaps all the rewards from its relentless recruiting practices. COCO has

1 victimized the very students the Title IV, HEA Program funds were intended to
2 benefit.

3 54. COCO redoubled its already aggressive recruiting practices by
4 focusing its recruiting on high school drop-outs, beginning in 2005, when rates
5 of enrollment began to decline. One of COCO's main objectives in the
6 recruiting process was to target high school drop-outs under a program called
7 "ability to benefit." These high school drop outs comprised 25% of COCO's
8 student population. Tuition at COCO increased to \$39,000 (compare to
9 Stanford) for the high school drop-outs being recruited by COCO's highly
10 incentivized recruiters.

11 55. Combining COCO's marketing strategy of targeting the least
12 qualified student population (high school drop-outs), along with its recruiter
13 compensation program that ties compensation directly to the number of students
14 enrolled, resulted in a massive increase in enrollments. By 2010, COCO's
15 enrollments dramatically increased to 110,000 students from 60,000 students in
16 2006 through exploiting these at risk students under the HEA "ability to
17 benefit" eligibility. With its heavy investment in recruitment and marketing,
18 COCO preyed on the desperation of many first generation college students
19 whose career decision-making was guided by the advice of COCO's recruiters,
20 who were induced to enroll every possible student.

1 56. Defendants, MOORE and MASSIMINO, while they served as the
2 president, chairman and chief executive officer of the institutions and of COCO,
3 designed and implemented COCO's recruiter compensation practices. MOORE
4 and MASSIMINO executed Program Participation Agreements every year so
5 that COCO could receive the federal student financial aid described herein.
6 MOORE and MASSIMINO knew that COCO was paying incentive
7 compensation to its recruiters, and that COCO would continue to pay incentive
8 compensation to its recruiters, each year when they executed the Program
9 Participation Agreements.

10 57. At the time that COCO certified to the United States in its PPAs and
11 other documents that it would not make incentive payments to admissions
12 personnel based on their success in securing enrollments, COCO knew that it
13 was paying and planned to continue to pay admissions personnel incentive
14 payments strictly based on how many students they enrolled. COCO's
15 recruiters operated with the understanding that they would be awarded raises for
16 exceeding the enrollment quotas assigned to their respective ranking.

17 58. COCO's recruiter compensation system was an illegal attempt to
18 circumvent the HEA's prohibition on incentive compensation, and did not
19 qualify for safe harbor protection. There is a direct correlation between student
20 enrollments and recruiter compensation at COCO.

1 59. COCO knew that the only factor considered in its compensation
2 system was actual enrollments, and further assessed as the percentage of leads
3 that were converted to enrollments by the recruiters, the L-C Ratio. COCO's
4 implementation of its recruiter compensation only took into account the number
5 of students enrolled, both directly and indirectly, which COCO knew did not
6 satisfy the Incentive Compensation Ban and Regulatory Safe Harbor.

7 60. The "Good" or "Excellent" ratings for recruiters were based solely on
8 the recruiters' L-C Ratio, *i.e.*, the recruiters' success in securing enrollments,
9 calculated as the number of Leads that were converted to enrollments. COCO's
10 rating system for recruiters was nothing more than a calculation of the
11 recruiters' enrollment percentage. COCO's recruiter performance rating system
12 is merely a proxy for employee recruitment numbers.

13 61. COCO knowingly made false statements, certifications, and claims
14 regarding compliance with the Incentive Compensation Ban, each year, in order
15 to remain eligible to receive Title IV funding. COCO's statements were false
16 when made, and caused the Department of Education to pay the claims for
17 financial aid submitted by the students who enrolled in study at COCO.

18 62. COCO has had, and continues to have, actual knowledge that it
19 is not adhering to the incentive compensation ban, and that its representations of
20 adherence to recruiter compensation laws to the United States have at all times

1 been false.

2 63. In order to deceive the U.S. Department of Education, COCO
3 engaged in practices designed to obscure the fact that its recruiters are paid as
4 salesmen, whose salaries were not "fixed" as required by the Safe Harbor
5 Provisions. Rank, seniority, and compensation are not determined by the hours
6 worked, or hire date, but are assessed solely based on the number of students
7 recruited.

8 9 **REPORTS BY INDEPENDENT AUDITORS**

10 64. Specific information was brought to E&Y's attention that provided
11 evidence concerning illegal acts in the compensation of COCO's recruiters that
12 would have a material effect on the Company's financial statements, prior to
13 E&Y's initial audit of the Company.

14 *Restrictions on Payment of Bonuses, Commissions or Other* 15 *Incentives.*

16 The HEA prohibits an institution from providing any commission,
17 bonus or other incentive payment based directly or indirectly on
18 success in securing enrollments or financial aid to any person or
19 entity engaged in any student recruitment, admission or financial aid
20 awarding activity for programs eligible for Title IV Program funds.
21 The DOE published new regulations, which took effect in July 2003,
22 to attempt to clarify this so-called "incentive compensation"
23 prohibition. The new regulations identify 12 compensation
24 arrangements that the DOE has determined are not in violation of the
25 incentive compensation prohibition, including the payment and
26 adjustment of salaries, bonuses or commissions in certain
27 circumstances. The DOE's new regulations do not establish clear

1 criteria for compliance in all circumstances, and the DOE has
2 announced that it will no longer review and approve individual
3 schools' compensation plans. Nonetheless, we believe that our
4 current compensation plans are in compliance with HEA standards
5 and the DOE's new regulations, although we cannot provide
6 assurance that the DOE will not find deficiencies in our compensation
7 plans."

8
9 MD&A discussion Form 10-K, 2004 FY.

10
11 65. E&Y intended for the United States Government to rely on E&Y's
12 audit opinions and statements. E&Y's audit opinions clearly reflected this
13 intention:

14 "This report is intended solely for the information and use of the
15 Board of Directors, management, others within the entity and *the U.S.*
16 *Department of Education* and is not intended to be and should not be
17 used by anyone other than these specified parties." (emphasis added)

18
19 66. E&Y substantially assisted COCO, a Company now on the verge of
20 bankruptcy, to engage in a massive accounting fraud, involving the surreptitious
21 practice of paying its recruiters on the basis of how many students they enrolled
22 in violation of the Higher Education Act, thereby defrauding the U.S.
23 Department of Education, the States who issued licenses to COCO, and most of
24 all, the students who enrolled at COCO. E&Y was fully aware of "the recruiter
25 compensation ban," and the issue of whether COCO was engaging in illegal
26 practices came to E&Y's attention in E&Y's initial audit of COCO. E&Y
27 vouched for COCO by issuing unqualified, clean opinions on COCO's financial
28 statement, which allowed COCO to collect billions of dollars of "Pell" grants

1 and government insured student loans from the U.S. Department of Education
2 which COCO was ineligible to receive. E&Y painted a false picture of a crucial
3 compliance issue for the U.S. Department of Education. COCO's
4 compensation program for its recruiters involved nothing less than salesmen
5 being paid by the head based on the number of students they enrolled, which
6 E&Y knew or recklessly disregarded.

7 67. E&Y knew that COCO's only source of revenue was the student
8 financial aid COCO received from the U.S. Government. Specifically, E&Y
9 was aware that COCO received close to ninety percent (90%) of its annual
10 revenues from Title IV student financial aid paid by the United States, and that
11 COCO could not receive those funds without the clean, unqualified audit
12 opinions from E&Y.

13 68. E&Y was aware that COCO generated an exceptionally high level of
14 growth in revenues between 2000-2010, and should have exercised professional
15 skepticism in evaluating how the Company consistently achieved higher and
16 higher enrollment targets each year.

17 69. E&Y not only endorsed COCO's recruiter compensation practices
18 with its unqualified audit opinions, but E&Y affirmatively refuted the very
19 caution made in the Management Discussion and Analysis ("MD&A") section
20 of COCO's Form 10-K, thereby enabling COCO to continue paying recruiters

1 based on the number of students they enrolled. E&Y knew, but did not disclose
2 in any audit opinion provided to the U.S. Department of Education, either in the
3 financial statement footnotes or otherwise, that COCO's violations of the
4 recruiter compensation restrictions would obligate COCO to repay the U.S.
5 Department of Education billions of dollars in government revenues.

6 70. E&Y deceived all parties. COCO's shareholders were deceived by
7 the Company's Form 10-K filings, which never disclosed that a third party
8 accounting firm was used to perform compliance work for the audit.
9 Conversely, while the MD&A disclosure in COCO's Form 10-K filings warned
10 investors that the legality of the recruiter compensation practice was in
11 question, E&Y made no such disclosure to the U.S. Department of Education.
12 E&Y was obligated under both *Government Auditing Standards* and *Generally*
13 *Accepted Auditing Standards* to disclose in the footnotes to the financial
14 statements, or by some other means that would have alerted the U.S.
15 Department of Education, that compliance with the recruiter compensation was
16 unknown -- at best -- because it affected 90% of COCO's revenues. In addition
17 the compliance considerations, the issue should have also been addressed as an
18 audit risk and closely evaluated because recruiter compensation and marketing
19 costs accounted for 25% of COCO's expenses.

20 71. E&Y well knew that COCO received billions of dollars of

1 government education funds on the basis of its audit opinions.

2 72. Rather than expose this fraud as auditors are required by their
3 professional standards to do, E&Y expressly "approved" the practices every
4 year by issuing clean, unqualified opinions on COCO's financial statements and
5 compliance audit. E&Y's clean opinions on COCO's financial statements
6 concealed the massive liability to the United States resulting from the recruiter
7 compensation violations.

8 73. E&Y completely abandoned its responsibility as COCO's auditor to
9 carefully audit COCO's recruiter compensation, at a time when disclosure was
10 most warranted, after the U.S. Department of Education formally notified the
11 Company that it would no longer provide advisory opinions as to the legality of
12 COCO's recruiter compensation practices.

13 74. E&Y knew it was critical for COCO to meet budgeted enrollment
14 levels in order to support COCO's stock price. The collapse in COCO's stock
15 price, due to COCO's rapidly deteriorating student loan default rate, and its
16 student drop-out rate, were the direct consequence of COCO's illegal recruiter
17 compensation practices. E&Y thus assisted COCO in defrauding not only the
18 U.S. Department of Education, but also the shareholders, about the recruiting
19 compensation practices which eventually led to the demise of the Company's
20 stock price. E&Y knew the adverse impact that COCO's use of salesmen-

1 recruiters to generate enrollments would eventually have on the Company and
2 its stock price. This known risk ultimately materialized, as COCO appears close
3 to bankruptcy, as an escalating student loan default that will soon make the
4 Company ineligible to receive the Title IV, HEA Program funds.

5 E&Y's Attempt to Disavow Compliance Responsibilities

6 75. The mechanism employed, in an attempt to avoid responsibility for
7 evaluating and reporting COCO's violations of the recruiter compensation
8 prohibition, was to fragment the audit. The audits were to structured in a
9 way that would attempt to shift responsibility to a third party accounting
10 firm to conduct COCO's compliance attestation. *GAAS* and *Government*
11 *Auditing Standards* do not allow such shifting of audit responsibility, as
12 both standards require the auditor to report and identify illegal acts of the
13 client that would material impact on the client's reported account balances.

14 76. Equally important is the fact that E&Y had actual knowledge of
15 the uncertainty over recruiter compensation as explained above.

16 77. E&Y abandoned its audit responsibility on recruiter compensation,
17 from its initial engagement through the present. In particular, auditing
18 compliance with laws and regulations is an essential requirement under
19 *GAAS* and *Government Auditing Standards* for recipients of significant U.S.
20 government funds. One of the professional standards governing the

1 requirement for compliance auditing, AU section 801, *Compliance Auditing*
2 *Considerations in Audits of Governmental Entities and Recipients of*
3 *Governmental Financial Assistance*, instructs the auditor that business
4 enterprises that receive government financial assistance are subject to laws
5 and regulations that may have a direct and material effect on the
6 determination of amounts in their financial statements.

7 AU section 801.01

8
9 This section is applicable when the auditor is engaged to audit a
10 governmental entity under generally accepted auditing standards
11 (GAAS), and engaged to test and report on compliance with laws
12 and regulations under Government Auditing Standards (the Yellow
13 Book) or in certain other circumstances involving financial
14 assistance such as single or organization-wide audits or program
15 specific audits under certain federal or state audit regulations.

16
17 AU section 801.02

18
19 Specifically, this section provides general guidance to the
20 auditor to --

21
22 a. Apply the provisions of section 317, *Illegal Acts by*
23 *Clients*, relative to detecting misstatements resulting from illegal
24 acts related to laws and regulations that have a direct and material
25 effect on the determination of financial statement amounts in
26 audits of the financial statements of governmental entities and
27 other recipients of governmental financial assistances (paragraphs
28 .03 through .07).

29
30 AU section 801.06

31
32 Section 317 describes the auditor's responsibility, in an audit
33 performed in accordance with GAAS, for considering laws and

1 regulations and how they affect the audit. Thus, the auditor should
2 design the audit to provide reasonable assurance that the financial
3 statements are free of material misstatements resulting from
4 violations of laws and regulations that have a direct and material
5 effect on the determination of financial statement amounts.
6

7 78. E&Y knew that the statements in its opinion letters that E&Y
8 performed audits of COCO's financial statements in accordance with *GAAS* and
9 *Government Auditing Standards* were false.

10 79. E&Y was deliberately indifferent to the truth of the opinion letters
11 and statements that E&Y performed audits of COCO's financial statements in
12 accordance with *GAAS* and *Government Auditing Standards*. E&Y intended for
13 the United States Government to rely on E&Y's audit opinions and statements.

14 80. E&Y acted in reckless disregard of the truth of the statements
15 contained in E&Y's opinion letters, and the assertion that E&Y performed
16 audits of COCO's financial statements in accordance with *GAAS* and
17 *Government Auditing Standards*. E&Y intended for the United States
18 Government to rely on E&Y's audit opinions and statements.

19
20 E&Y's Reports on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on
21 Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of the Consolidated Financial
22 Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*
23

24 81. The main purpose of an audit of internal control over financial
25 reporting and on compliance is to identify the areas of "material weakness" in
26 the client's financial reporting. E&Y's opinions and reports on internal control

1 over financial reporting and on compliance were false, and did not comply with
 2 *Government Auditing Standards*, because they failed to identify the material
 3 weakness on COCO's recruiter compensation practices, a material weakness of
 4 which E&Y was fully aware.

5 AT § 501.09 The auditor's objective in an examination of internal
 6 control is to form an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's
 7 internal control. Because an entity's internal control cannot be
 8 considered effective if one or more **material weaknesses** exist, to
 9 form a basis for expressing an opinion, the auditor should plan and
 10 perform the examination to obtain sufficient appropriate evidence
 11 to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material weaknesses
 12 exist as of the date specified in management's assertion. A material
 13 weakness in internal control may exist even when financial
 14 statements are not materially misstated. The auditor is not required
 15 to search for deficiencies that, individually or in combination, are
 16 less severe than a material weakness.

17 Role of Risk Assessment

18
 19 .23 **Risk assessment underlies the entire examination process**
 20 **described by this section**, including the determination of
 21 **significant accounts and disclosures** and relevant assertions, the
 22 selection of controls to test, and the determination of the evidence
 23 necessary to conclude on the effectiveness of a given control.
 24 When performing an examination of internal control that is
 25 integrated with an audit of financial statements, the same risk
 26 assessment process supports both engagements.

27 .24 **The auditor should focus more attention on the areas of**
 28 **highest risk**. A direct relationship exists between the degree of
 29 risk that a material weakness could exist in a particular area of the
 30 entity's internal control and the amount of attention that would be
 31 devoted to that area. In addition, an entity's internal control is less
 32 likely to prevent, or detect and correct a misstatement caused by
 33 fraud than a misstatement caused by error. It is not necessary to
 34 test controls that, even if deficient, would not present a reasonable

1 possibility of material misstatement to the financial statements.
2 [footnote omitted] (emphasis added)

3 Going Concern Qualification

4 82. E&Y also failed to report on COCO's ability to continue as a going
5 concern if its access to the student financial aid was terminated as the result of
6 COCO's violations of the recruiter compensation ban. Under *GAAS*, every
7 audit opinion carries the implicit assertion that there is no substantial doubt
8 about the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. "Continuation of an
9 entity as a going concern is assumed in financial reporting in the absence of
10 significant information to the contrary." AU § 341.01.

11 83. E&Y's opinions violated *GAAS* and *Government Auditing Standards*
12 by failing to disclose how the uncertainty about COCO's recruiter
13 compensation would impact on the Company's continued existence as a "going
14 concern." An entity is a going concern when it has the ability to continue in
15 operation and meet its obligations. The concept that financial statements are
16 prepared on the basis of a going concern is one of the basic tenets of financial
17 accounting. Because the going concern assumption is so basic, the standard
18 auditor's report does not make reference to it.

19 84. E&Y failed to meet its obligations under AU § 341, *The Auditor's*
20 *Consideration of an Entity's Ability to Continue as a Going Concern*, which
21 required E&Y to report on COCO's ability to continue as a going concern when

1 its recruiter compensation jeopardized its access to the Title IV Program
2 funding.

3 The Auditor's Responsibility

4
5 AU 341.02

6 The auditor has a responsibility to evaluate whether there is
7 substantial doubt about the entity's ability to continue as a
8 going concern for a reasonable period of time, not to exceed
9 one year beyond the date of the financial statements being
10 audited (hereafter referred to as *a reasonable period of*
11 *time*). ...
12

13 85. The ability to continue operations as a going concern is one of the
14 basic standard of financial responsibility required under Agency regulations.
15

16 **COUNT ONE**

17 (False Claims Regarding Compliance with the Higher Education Act)
18 31 U.S.C. § 3729(a)(1) (1986)
19

20 86. The Relators reallege and incorporate by reference all paragraphs
21 set forth herein.

22 87. By virtue of the acts described above, defendants knowingly or
23 acting in deliberate ignorance or reckless disregard presented or caused to be
24 presented false or fraudulent claims for payment or approval to the United
25 States, in violation of the False Claims Act.

26 88. From 2000 to 2010, Defendants knowingly presented or caused to be

1 presented false or fraudulent claims to the United States for payment, in
2 violation of the FCA, 31 U.S.C. § 3729(a)(1). Specifically, Defendants
3 knowingly submitted or caused to be submitted, false certifications regarding
4 compliance with the requirements of Title IV of the HEA, in, *inter alia*, its
5 PPAs and annual financial and compliance audits, as well as in student loan and
6 grant applications, in order to obtain eligibility to participate in Title IV, HEA
7 programs and receive Title IV funding, when in fact, COCO's compensation
8 system, as implemented by COCO, was not compliant with the Title IV of the
9 HEA and its associated Safe Harbor regulations. In practice, the sole factor that
10 determined changes to the compensation of COCO's admissions personnel was
11 the number of students recruited by the admissions employee during the
12 previous twelve months. In submitting or causing to be submitted such
13 certifications and applications, COCO acted with actual knowledge, reckless
14 disregard, or deliberate ignorance of the truth or falsity of the claims.

15 89. COCO, MOORE and MASSIMINO made express representations in
16 ~~writing to the Department of Education that it would not make incentive~~
17 payments to its admissions personnel based directly or indirectly on their
18 success in securing enrollments. These representations induced the Department
19 of Education to make students at COCO eligible for many forms of financial
20 aid. These representations were material to the Department of Education's

1 decision to make COCO eligible for these financial aid programs. At the time
2 COCO made these representations, it knew that these representations were
3 false, and would continue to be false, because COCO was paying its admissions
4 personnel incentive payments based on their success in securing enrollments.
5 Therefore, COCO fraudulently induced the Department of Education to make
6 COCO eligible to participate in the Title IV, HEA programs, and each and
7 every one of the claims it submitted or caused a student to submit violated the
8 FCA.

9 90. Even if COCO, MOORE and MASSIMINO had not affirmed to the
10 government that it would comply with the Incentive Compensation Ban, the
11 mere fact that such compliance was material to the government's decision to
12 make COCO eligible for Title IV, HEA programs, combined with the fact that
13 COCO, knowing that it was in violation of the Incentive Compensation Ban and
14 therefore ineligible to receive such student financial aid, submitted claims for
15 student financial aid, caused students to submit claims for student financial,
16 and/or received such aid, makes COCO liable under the FCA.

17 91. E&Y made express representations in writing to the Department of
18 Education that it performed its audits of COCO in accordance with *Generally*
19 *Accepted Auditing Standards*, and *Government Auditing Standards*. These
20 representations induced the Department of Education to make students at

1 COCO eligible for many forms of financial aid. These representations were
2 material to the Department of Education's decision to make COCO eligible for
3 these financial aid programs. At the time E&Y made these representations,
4 E&Y knew that these representations were false, and would continue to be
5 false, because E&Y did not perform the audit steps and procedures required
6 under *Generally Accepted Auditing Standards*, and *Government Auditing*
7 *Standards* with respect to COCO's recruiter compensation practices. Therefore,
8 E&Y fraudulently induced the Department of Education to make COCO
9 eligible to participate in the Title IV, HEA programs, and each and every one of
10 the claims it submitted or caused a student to submit violated the FCA.

11 92. The United States has suffered damages because of these acts.

12 **COUNT TWO**

13 (False Claims Act, 31 U.S.C. § 3729(a)(2) (1986))

14 93. The Relators reallege and incorporate by reference all paragraphs
15 set forth herein.

16 94. By virtue of the acts described above, defendants knowingly or
17 acting in deliberate ignorance or reckless disregard made, used, or caused to
18 made or used, a false record or statement to get a false or fraudulent claim paid
19 or approved by the United States, in violation of the False Claims Act.

20 95. The United States has suffered damages because of these acts.

COUNT THREE

(False Claims Act, 31 U.S.C. § 3729(a)(3) (1986))

96. The Relators reallege and incorporate by reference all paragraphs set forth herein.

97. By virtue of the acts described above, defendants conspired to defraud the United States by getting a false or fraudulent claim allowed or paid, in violation of the False Claims Act.

98. The United States has suffered damages because of these acts.

COUNT FOUR

(False Claims Act, 31 U.S.C. § 3729(a)(7) (1986))

99. The Relators reallege and incorporate by reference all paragraphs set forth herein.

100. Defendants knowingly committed the acts described above for the purpose of concealing, avoiding, or decreasing an obligation to pay or transmit money or property to the United States, in violation of the False Claims Act.

101. The United States has suffered damages because of these acts.

WHEREFORE, RELATORS DEMAND JUDGMENT AGAINST DEFENDANTS AS FOLLOWS:

A. On Counts One, Two, Three, and Four, judgment against Defendants for treble damages sustained by the United States, plus

1 civil monetary penalties for false claims and statements as
2 allowable by law;

3 B. Relators respectfully seek leave of the Court to amend the
4 Complaint when the amount of damages has been fully ascertained
5 or to amend the Complaint to conform to proof at or prior to trial;

6 C. For costs, fees, and other relief as may be just and proper;

7 D. For a ten percent (10%) surcharge in the amount of the debt owed
8 pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 3011.

9 **DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

10 102. Pursuant to Rule 38 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and
11 pursuant to the local rules of Court, the Relators demand a jury trial.

12 Dated: December 15, 2011
13 Houston, Texas
14

15 Respectfully submitted:

16 Law Offices of Scott D. Levy PC

17
18 
19 Scott D. Levy